



500.41295VX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T. KAWAGUCHI et al
Serial No.: 10/688,991
Filed: October 21, 2003
For: PLASMA PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS
Group: 3742
Examiner: Not yet assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 18, 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith copies of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration, noting that such documents were cited on January 9, 2004, in the parent application, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/083,252.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits and is accompanied by the following certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e).

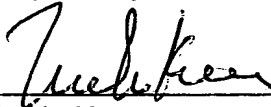
That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months period to the filing of the statement.

Each of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 is in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.41295VX1) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Melvin Kraus', is written over a horizontal line.

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Form PTO-1449
Equivalent

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Atty. Docket No. 500.41295VX1
Serial No. 10/688,991
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U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initials	Document No.	Date	Name	Class Subclass	Filing Date If Approp.
	2001/0008138 A1	07-19-2001	DEMOS et al.		
	5,846,373	12-08-1998	PIRKLE et al.		
	5,837,094	11-17-1998	TSUKAZAKI et al.		
	6,308,654 B1	10-30-2001	SCHNEIDER et al.		
	5,647,913	07-15-1997	BLALOCK		
	6,054,013	04-25-2000	COLLINS et al.		

Foreign Patent Documents

Document No.	Date	Country	Class Subclass	Translation Yes No
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Other Documents (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609;
Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next
communication to applicant.